

# POSTPONING CALL OF PRIVATE CALENDAR

Mr. FUNDERBUNK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be in order later today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

## REFORM WELFARE NOW

(Mr. BOEHNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, welfare should not be a way of life. Republicans are committed to replacing welfare with real work. However, President Clinton just wants to play politics with this issue, and there is no excuse that is too vague or too convoluted for President Clinton. As a candidate in 1992, the President promised to reform welfare as we know it, but he has vetoed welfare reform, not just once but twice. He has yet to keep his promise to the people of Wisconsin to sign their waiver to allow the Wisconsin works program to go into effect. He promised that he would have these waivers signed by last week, and now it is a week later.

If welfare reform was so important to President Clinton, why can he not sign a welfare reform plan working with this new Congress and approve the Wisconsin reform waiver?

Mr. Speaker, no more excuses, no more Washington political game. Let us reform welfare now.

## REPORT ON H.R. 3814, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, FISCAL YEAR 1997

Mr. Rogers, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-676) on the bill (H.R. 3814) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All points of order are reserved on the bill.

## SUPPORT ROMANIA MFN

(Mr. RICHARDSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today we have a change in a bipartisan fashion to do something together on foreign policy. We should grant MFN to Romania. What we are doing is just extending parity. This is no special treatment. We did it under Ceausescu, the dictator. We should do it now under a

burgeoning democracy. Romania is a burgeoning democracy. It has made progress since the revolution of 1989 on human rights, the rule of law and a free market. Romania has been a loyal ally in recent foreign policy initiatives including sending troops to Bosnia, peacekeeping in Angola, large contingent in the U.S. training under the IMET program and an impressive record of support in the United Nations. Two out of our last three Ambassadors on a bipartisan basis have supported MFN to Romania.

Mr. Speaker, Romanians are looking to the United States as the primary source of business opportunities to foster the development of their economy. They have met the legal criteria for MFN, free immigration of its citizens.

Mr. Speaker, let us do something in a responsible bipartisan fashion.

## MEDIA BIAS ON FILEGATE

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I could not disagree more with the previous speaker, but today I want to speak about the media bias on Filegate.

Mr. Speaker, where is the national media on filegate?

Where are the Woodward and Bernsteins?

Is the liberal left not shocked and outraged about the invasion of privacy of American citizens?

Are the liberals only outraged when it happens under a Republican President?

During Watergate, Chuck Colson went to prison for looking at one personnel file.

During Watergate, the Washington Post daily pounded the Nixon administration and tirelessly worked to find where the trail led.

Is the national press not interested because they overwhelmingly voted for Bill Clinton in 1992?

There are many unanswered questions.

Who in the White House hired Clinton's dirty tricksters and to whom did they report?

And finally in Clinton's inaugural address he said he would have the most ethical administration in history.

Since that is clearly not the case, when is the national press going to call Bill Clinton on the carpet?

## BORIS HAS FALLEN AND HE CANNOT GET UP

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in August 1994, after a champagne lunch, Boris Yeltsin fell off a platform in Germany. In September 1994 Boris was too drunk to get off a plane in Ireland. In

February 1995, after an in-flight party, Boris had to be carried by aides off his plane. Just recently in July, Boris mysteriously disappeared for 7 days right before his election, and yesterday Boris Yeltsin missed a meeting with almost Santa Claus, Vice President AL GORE, but Vice President AL GORE came to his defense and said, "Boris looks good to me."

I ask, Mr. Speaker, compared to who? Jack Daniels? Foster Brooks?

The truth of the matter is while millions of Americans are worried sick about losing Medicare, Social Security, the White House is pouring billions of dollars into Russia, and Boris, who cannot walk a straight line while touching his nose.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker, and while we are at it, we better beam up Boris. Evidently, he has fallen and he cannot get up and he is getting drunk on Napa Valley champagne. Unbelievable.

## THE REPUBLICAN COMMONSENSE WELFARE REFORM PLAN

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, just as President Wilson once claimed that World War I was going to be "the war to end all wars," President Clinton has promised to "end welfare as we know it."

Of course, unlike President Wilson, and despite two previous welfare vetoes, President Clinton still has a chance to renew his vow by supporting and signing the Republican commonsense welfare reform plan.

The Republican welfare reform plan is built upon five pillars which ensure that any assistance is temporary and not self-destructive.

It imposes a 5-year lifetime limit for collecting AFDC and vouchers. It requires able-bodied recipients to work for their benefits. It denies welfare benefits to noncitizens and felons. It restores power and flexibility to the States. And, it encourages personal responsibility to halt rising illegitimacy rates.

Mr. Speaker, redemption is at hand. President Clinton need not defend the status quo of a failed welfare system any longer. He needs only to support and sign the Republican commonsense welfare reform plan.

## WELCOME TO REFORM "WEAK"

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, the hard part is being to do this with a straight face because we are welcoming everyone to the Republicans' reform week. Yesterday in Roll Call, the majority leader said reform week was not meant to be "floorcentric." Now what does that mean to people beyond the Beltway?